

Guidelines for Submissions to the URC Prayer Handbook 2021



The 2021 Prayer Handbook simply has the theme '*Conversations*'.

Editors Karen Campbell and Ian Fosten invite you to consider the conversations you share with God - thanksgiving and praise, the questions asked, the pleas for intervention in our daily living. What do you see, hear, experience and feel which moves you to pour your heart out to God? How do you listen for and hear God speaking to you?

You are invited to write as you would pray - no special words or format - and allow us the privilege of sharing your prayers with others in the United Reformed Church and beyond.

You are welcome to submit a maximum of four prayers to be considered for inclusion in the handbook. The prayers must be your own, original work and should be previously unpublished. You may submit materials you have written for local church use. Prayers can be for private or for corporate use.

Whilst the prayers can draw on any relevant and topical theme, you are asked to avoid direct reference to specific/immediate events which may cause the prayers to become quickly dated.

To help with formatting, prayers should be a maximum length of 25 lines, each line having no more than 60 characters including spaces and punctuation.

Please give each prayer a title. The editors look forward to receiving and reading all submissions but cannot guarantee that every prayer will be included in the final handbook. Copyright for any prayers used will remain with the United Reformed Church.

We would like you to submit your prayers by **17 February 2020**. You will be informed by 20th March 2020 whether your prayer(s) will be included. If your prayer is to be used, we will then engage in a conversation with you as follows:

We will do our first editing of your writing and return this to you by **6 April 2020** for you to consider and address any suggested changes or rewriting. Your final re-worked version will be expected by **27 April 2020** which we will then work on so that we can have the final text ready by the end of May 2020. This early deadline is necessary to guarantee a final product ready for sale by the first autumn Synod meeting in September.

We thank you in advance for your thoughtful and prayerful writing.

Karen Campbell and Ian Fosten